its own provision of fund to be spent on welfare measures of the miners. This fund is administered through the CIL and its subsidiary coal companies.

(b) Amount collected as cess from Maharashtra coalfields during the last three years under the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act and amount spent during that period was as under:

| Years | Cess collected | Amount spent |
|---|---|---|
| 1983-84 | 44 lakhs | 20·02 lakhs |
| 1984-85 | 44 lakhs | 0·95 lakhs |
| 1985-86 | 48 lakhs | 23·64 lakhs |

(c) During the years the cess so collected was spent on Medical, Housing, Education, Recreation, Co-operatives, Games and Sports, Family Planning activities etc. for the benefit of the colliery workers in the Coal Mining industry in the State of Maharashtra.

**Damage caused to Raichur Thermal Power Station**

15. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the first unit of 210 MW of the Raichur Thermal Power Station has suffered a damage caused by an accident on 18th March, 1986;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the accident and the extent of damage; and

(c) the time likely to be taken for the repair of the damaged unit and the loss suffered in terms of money?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The accident occurred on account of over-pressurisation of tunnels of cooling water system as a result of inadvertant closure of butterfly valve at the inlet of cooling water tower when air vents and the manholes of the tunnels were closed. Out of the 4 tunnels three got damaged.

(c) It is expected that repair works for Unit-I tunnels will be completed by the end of April, 1986 and for Unit-II tunnels by the end of May, 1986. The cost of rectification has been presently estimated at Rs. 94 lakhs.

**Modernising of the ITI**

16. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal under consideration to modernise the ITI by introducing electronic push button telephones; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Three foreign collaborators have been chosen by the Department of Electronics for the know how transfer to various companies for the manufacture of electronic push botton telephones. Indian Telephone Industries Ltd. is collaborating with M/s. FACE Standards, Italy, for the manufacture of Electronic push botton telephones. They have already taken procurement action for the capital equipments required for this manufacture. Import licence for these capital items is awaited. ITI expects to start the production of Electronic push botton telephones out of SKD supplies during 1986-87.